

What is claimed: 03

1        1. A stent comprising a tubular member having  
2        hoops aligned along the axis of said tubular member, each  
3        of said hoops comprising a series of sinusoidal or zig-zag  
4        elements including apices alternatingly pointing in  
5        opposite directions along the axis of the stent with at  
6        least one apex of one hoop adjoining an oppositely pointed  
7        apex of an adjacent hoop and being connected there by a  
8        connecting member.

1        2. A stent according to claim 1, wherein said  
2        tubular member is made from a shape memory alloy.

1        3. A stent according to claim 2, wherein said  
2        shape memory alloy is nitinol.

1        4. A stent according to claim 1, wherein said  
2        connecting member is a suture material.

1        5. A stent according to claim 4, wherein said  
2        suture material is a polypropylene.

1        6. A stent according to claim 1, wherein some of  
2        said apices of one hoop adjoin an oppositely pointed apex  
3        of an adjacent hoop and are connected thereto.

1        7. A stent according to claim 1, wherein all  
2        said apices of one hoop adjoin oppositely pointed apices of  
3        an adjacent hoop and are connected thereto.

1        8. A stent according to claim 1, further  
2        comprising a tubular graft member secured to said tubular  
3        member with at least one said connecting member.

1        9. A stent according to claim 8, wherein said  
2        graft member lies within said tubular member.